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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

POL 23
XR POL 1-1 US

RM/R	REP	AF	ARA
1		5	10
EUR	6	10	CU
5	4	2	5
3	1	20	1
16A	1	5	5/5
2	1	4	10
	1	17	1
ACR	COM	FRB	INT
LAB	TAR	TR	XMD
AIR	ARMY	NAVY	OSD
5	3	5	34
USIA	NSA	CIA	NSA
10	3	10	4
		NSC	NSC

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FILE DESIGNATION

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CA-8663

HANDLING INDICATOR

NO.

TO : ALL AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS
STUTTGART FOR POLAD CINCEUR; NORFOLK FOR POLAD CINCLANT;
PANAMA FOR POLAD CINCSO; NAPLES FOR POLAD CINCSOUTH; TAMPA
FOR POLAD CINCSTRIKE; SCOTT AFB FOR POLAD COMAC; OKINAWA
FOR POLAD HICOM RYUKYUS; HEIDELBERG FOR POLAD CINCUSAREUR;
BRUSSELS FOR SHAPE (BRANDIN); WIESEADEN FOR POLAD CINCUSAFE;
HONOLULU FOR POLAD CINCPAC.
FROM : Department of State

DATE: JUN 13 9 19 AM '68

SUBJECT : United States Policy on Internal
Defense in Selected Foreign Countries

REF : Attached at TAB A is a copy of the new U.S. policy directive on foreign internal defense approved on May 23, 1968 by the Senior Interdepartmental Group (SIG). This directive supersedes the U.S. Overseas Internal Defense Policy (USOIDP) issued in 1962. The policy review was commissioned by the SIG and conducted by an interdepartmental group (State, AID, Defense, JCS, CIA, USIA) under State leadership. The directive is designed to incorporate six years of experience and changes of policy emphasis in a document available to all agencies. The main clarifications and new directions are:

A. It clarifies the U.S. role--the concept of the United States as the world's anti-communist gendarme is rejected and the need for limitation on United States commitment is recognized. United States activities in the field of internal defense should be limited to those few countries in which (1) we have a significant national interest; (2) there is clear evidence that internal disorder or subversion threatens that interest; (3) there is an indigenous will to resist as well as the desire

Group 3

Downgraded at 12-year intervals;
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FORM 10-64 DS-323

Drafted by: G/PM: HFD: S: EMCG: A:

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Clearances:

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2

and capability to use effectively U.S. assistance; and (4) the resources and assistance needed to maintain internal security are not available from other sources.

B. It recognizes that the modernization process in developing countries is inherently disorderly and unsettling and that upheavals and violence must therefore be anticipated as part of the development pattern.

C. It stresses that assistance in the field of foreign internal defense cannot be considered in isolation from the whole range of political, economic, social, cultural, and psychological factors which comprise total United States involvement with a given country.

D. It reiterates the fundamental role of the IRGs and the SIG in the implementation of the new policy, and calls for compilation of a new listing of high priority countries which meet the revised criteria, and eventual drafting of up-to-date internal defense plans for those countries by our overseas missions to be approved by the IRGs.

The SIG has also issued a directive (TAB B) to the Executive Chairmen of the IRGs and to the Chairman, Political-Military Group for implementation of the new policy. The role of the Political-Military Group is to monitor, on behalf of the SIG, U.S. policies and programs in the foreign internal defense field. In carrying out this responsibility the PMG will be principally concerned with recommending priorities among countries to be selected by the IRGs for U.S. action, exploring inter-regional and overall foreign policy implications of internal defense strategies and resource allocations recommended by the IRGs, and reviewing inter-agency contingency studies of the possible use of U.S. military forces.

Addressees in countries being considered for attention under the new policy will be notified by separate instruction. In some cases, planning documents or reports already submitted (e.g., CASPs on Latin American countries), will fulfill all or the major part of the requirement set forth in paragraph 2 of TAB B, concerning the preparation of country foreign internal defense plans.

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3

The policy directive will have the effect of narrowing the number of countries subject to the new procedures. Despite this fact, the directive is being sent to all posts, and officers should become familiar with its provisions as an important policy document.

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Attachments:

TAB A - U.S. Policy Directive on
Foreign Internal Defense

TAB B - Directive to Executive Chairmen of IRGs
and Chairman, Political-Military Group
for Implementation of new Policy

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